

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, the NBC Nightly News broadcast a segment in which the Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah was quoted as telling Saudi television that "Zionists" were behind May 1 attack on contractors at the Saudi oil facility in Yanbu. That attack killed five westerners, including two Americans.

The Crown Prince's remarks were echoed by Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayef, who said that, "al Qaeda is backed by Israel and Zionism." Prince Abdullah's comments were scurrilous and inflammatory; unfortunately, they are part of a persistent pattern by the Saudi government of saying one thing to the United States and the west and another thing altogether to its own citizens, 15 of whom participated in the September 11 attacks against our Nation.

Indeed, the fact that three-quarters of the 9-11 terrorists were Saudis and that their leader, Osama bin Laden, was a member of a family that long enjoyed close ties to the Saudi royal family, should have spurred the Saudi government to immediate action. Instead, Saudi officials engaged in a protracted effort to deny that any of their citizens had been involved in the 9-11 attacks and instead blamed Israel for terrorism.

Saudi double-talk has had the effect of undermining the efforts that Kingdom has belatedly made in combating terrorism. In the wake of the May 2003 bombing of the housing compounds in Riyadh, the Saudi government began to take steps to cut off sources of terrorism funding, but much more needs to be done. A new report from the Council on Foreign Relations notes that while Riyadh has enacted new laws, regulations, and institutions dealing with money laundering, charitable donations, and financial operations, those new measures have not been fully implemented and there have been no arrests of prominent Saudis who have supported al Qaeda financially.

While we must work with the Saudis to ensure they are continuing to move forward in their efforts in counterterrorism, the war against Islamic terrorism requires the United States to engage Saudi Arabia on a broad range of issues. As the Council on Foreign Relations noted, our relationship with Saudi Arabia over the past 7 decades was built on a bargain in which the Kingdom would ensure stability in the world's oil markets and would play a constructive role in regional security. In exchange, the United States would guarantee Saudi security and would not interfere or raise questions about Saudi domestic issues.

The events of September 11 compel us to challenge the Saudis to change the conditions in the Kingdom that have made it a breeding ground for extremism. We must do this for our own security, but also to help ensure the stability of Saudi Arabia and of the entire

Arab world. A stable, moderate and reforming Saudi government is in America's national interest, and we must push for reform in Saudi Arabia without destabilizing the country further and throwing it into chaos.

Saudi Arabia's problems did not arise overnight. They are the product of decades of tension between the Saudi royal family and the Wahhabi clerics, whose ultra-conservative brand of Islam predominates in the Kingdom. When the House of Saud came to power, it sought to bring electricity, modern communications, and infrastructure to a traditional nomadic desert society.

In November 1979, these contradictions exploded when a group of Islamic militants invaded Mecca's Grand Mosque and took hundreds of pilgrims hostage. Government forces retook the Mosque and executed dozens of Islamic extremists. Instead of working to root out extremism throughout the country, the government sought accommodation with the extremists and handed over control of many aspects of Saudi life, including education, the Judiciary, and cultural affairs to the clerics. As a Saudi businessman tellingly told *Newsweek's* Fareed Zakaria recently, "Having killed the extremists, the regime implemented their entire agenda."

Thus, at the height of the Saudi oil boom of the 1970s and 1980s, Saudi Arabia took a sharp conservative turn. Even as thousands of young Saudis were being educated in the west, the majority of their countrymen were being fed a diet of religious and cultural bigotry. The rights of women, already almost nonexistent, were even more circumscribed.

By September 2001, the Saudi economy had faltered, its cities were filled with large numbers of undereducated, underemployed, and unmotivated young people who had both tasted modernity and were steeped in an ideology that preached hatred toward the west.

While the Saudis have begun to address the terrorist financing issue, Riyadh has yet to begin the more difficult task of recapturing the country from the extremists. This battle will be long, it will be difficult, and it will be bloody, but we must keep the pressure on the government of Saudi Arabia to do this. Our security and their future depends upon it.

TRIBUTE TO LAGRANGE GRANGERS, GEORGIA'S 2004 AAA HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL CHAMPIONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGREY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the LaGrange High School Grangers, Georgia's 2004 AAA high school baseball champions.

To win the State championship, LaGrange had to beat one of Georgia's greatest baseball powerhouses, the

Cartersville Purple Hurricanes, a program that captured State titles for the past 3 years in a row. I am proud to say that the runner up and defending champion, Cartersville High School, is also in Georgia's 11th congressional district.

The Grangers' crown did not come easily. They split a double-header to force a decisive game three. In that final game, LaGrange jumped out to a big lead, going ahead 9 to 2. But the Purple Hurricanes were not done yet. They crawled back, and then notched three runs in the sixth inning to tie the game at 10 to 10. That is when the Grangers proved they had the heart of champions.

In the bottom of the sixth, LaGrange knocked in three runs, and senior Josh Edmonson took the mound in the seventh inning to snuff out any more comeback hopes for the Purple Hurricanes.

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After winning game three of the series, the Grangers finished the year 31-6. I am proud for the team and I am proud for the coaches, Donnie Branch and Jon Powell, who have been together with the team since 1989. Their teams had advanced far in the tournament in previous years, but the ultimate crown had remained elusive until now.

As Coach Powell explained his excitement to the LaGrange Daily News, "You can't put it into words. You dream about it and you work and you work and you work."

Coach Branch, congratulations on a dream come true and a job well done.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEARCE). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. INSLEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. INSLEE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

EVENTS IN SUDAN AND IN MEMORY OF MATTIE STEPANEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Allow me, Mr. Speaker, to join in with a number of my colleagues and as well the Congressional Black Caucus on this question of the people in Sudan. I add my appreciation to the leadership of the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WOLF) and Senator BROWNBACK on recognizing the enormity of the genocide that is occurring in Sudan. I know that if the nation of Sudan wants to do better, it can do better.

Right now we have 400,000 Sudanese being displaced and thousands being killed every day. As some of us said